

BernCo at a Glance E-newsletter

Volume 3 | Oct. 7, 2020



CORONAVIRUS [COVID-19]

BERNALILLO COUNTY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

[Click to visit website](#)

Stay Up-to-date with State Mandates

Visit www.newmexico.gov.

www.BernCo.gov/coronavirus

COVID-19 Public Health Requirements

- **Foremost, please stay home if you are sick. Period.**
- Masks are mandatory in public, non-compliance can result in a \$100 fine
- For updated travel restrictions click [here](#).
- Practice social distancing -- be aware of your surroundings and others near you
- Adhere to the six-foot rule and stay at home except as needed for grocery shopping, medical assistance and exercise
- Limit group contact to 10 or fewer people
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash

New Mexico Department of Health:

- **New Mexicans with COVID-19 related questions should call the coronavirus hotline at 855-600-3453**
- **Non-COVID-19 related questions or concerns, call 833-551-0518**
- [NMDOH COVID-19 Public Dashboard](#) -- the data dashboard includes county-by-county breakdowns of positive cases by age, gender and ethnicity.

Information and resources from the CDC regarding coronavirus COVID-19:

www.cdc.gov.

To read or download CDC fact sheets click [here](#).

Do you know the difference between self-isolation and self-quarantine?

The answer to this question and many more are in the *Policies for the Prevention and Control of COVID-19*. Click [here](#) to learn more.

NMConnect smartphone app for all New Mexicans [\(click to learn more\)](#)

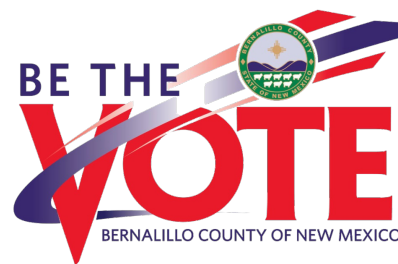
All Things Election!



Clerk to Absentee Voters: Return Application Now

Bernalillo County Clerk Linda Stover recorded a video PSA urging voters wanting to vote absentee to complete and return the application now.

Bernalillo County has already received over 126,490 applications for an absentee ballot. The Clerk's Office will begin mailing absentee ballots on Oct. 6, 2020.



Do you have Questions About the 2020 General Election?

Get answers to your 2020 General Election questions by visiting the Bernalillo County Clerk's Frequently-Asked Questions page [here](#).

Wondering about how to request an absentee ballot? Questions about deadlines? Check out these FAQs to see if we've got the answers you need. Happy Voting!

Request an Absentee Application at BerncoVotes.org

2020 General Election Key Dates

- Sept. 14, 2020 – Clerk mails absentee application to all registered voters
- Oct. 6, 2020 – Clerks begin mailing absentee ballots to voters who have requested them.
- Oct. 6-16, 2020 – In-person Absentee Voting/Same Day Registration at Clerk's Annex.
- Oct. 17-31, 2020 – Early Voting/Same Day Registration
- Oct. 20, 2020 – Deadline for clerk to receive mailed absentee applications.
- Oct. 27, 2020 – Recommended final day for voters to mail absentee ballots.
- Nov. 3, 2020 – Election Day
 - Absentee ballots must arrive by 7 p.m.

BernCo General Obligation Bond Questions are on the Ballot

General Obligation Bond Question #1 provides for new books and digital media for our library system. It will also help fund the new library in the International District in the City of Albuquerque.

General obligation bonds improve our community and quality of life without raising taxes.

Find out more about all of the bond questions at www.bernco.gov/cip.



Movies in the Parking Lot - *Friday Night Frights* Friday, Oct. 9 - *The Goonies*

Isleta Amphitheater 5601 University Blvd SE


Gates open at 5:30 p.m. | Movie begins at 7:30 p.m.

Bring a non-perishable food item(s) for admission to benefit the Roadrunner Food bank.



Got Questions About the Employee Wellness Act?

(Click the image on below for more information)



Bernalillo County Employee Wellness Act Ordinance 2019-32

<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">How Much Paid Time Off Do Employees Accrue?</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any employee who performs at least 56 hours of work for an employer whose physical premises is located in the unincorporated part of Bernalillo County will accrue one hour of paid time off for every 32 hours worked. Employees begin accruing paid time off on the 1st day of employment or the first day of the effective date of the ordinance if they are already employed. From October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, employers subject to the ordinance are required to provide employees up to 28 hours of paid time off unless the employer's policy provides for a higher limit on use and accrual. 	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">When and How Can Employees Use Paid Time Off?</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employers will advise employees how they can make a request for paid time off, either at the effective date of the ordinance, or the first day of employee's hire, whichever is first. Employees can start using paid time off on the 90th day of employment or 90 calendar days after the effective date of the ordinance if the employee is already hired. An employer shall permit an employee to utilize the earned paid time off for any purpose.
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Helpful Links:

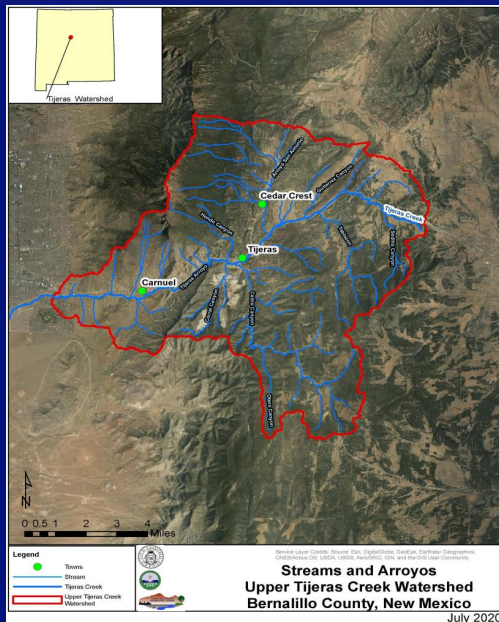
<https://www.bermco.gov/planning/employee-wellness-act.aspx>

Retaliation or discrimination against an employee who requests and/or uses paid time is prohibited. An employee can file a complaint against an employer who retaliates or discriminates against the employee or who fails to provide required paid leave.

For more information, contact:
Community Services Division Offices: (505) 465-7343 deputycountymgr_communityservices.gov

For more information visit www.bermco.gov

We Want to Hear From You!



The Tijeras Creek Water Collaborative


Watershed residents that want to participate in the process can email Sean Ludden with the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation at ciudadprograms@gmail.com to be placed on an email list.

How should we develop trails and historic sites along El Camino Real?

Visit camino-bermco.com to learn more and submit your feedback.

¿Cómo debemos desarrollar senderos y sitios históricos en su comunidad?

Visita camino-bermco.com para obtener más información y envíe sus comentarios.



**El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro
NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL
Development Concept Plan**

El Camino Real National Historic Trail Conceptual Plan

We are asking for the community's input to:

- Identify sites located along the historic route that can be developed for the public to visit, experience, and learn about the National Historic Trail.
- Identify preferred routes for a multi-modal trail following the historic alignment.

Commissioners Approve Disaster Relief Aid

\$1.4 million in programming for indigent families

Bernalillo County commissioners have

approved an administrative resolution that establishes the Bernalillo County Disaster Assistance Program. This resolution allows the county manager to enter into service agreements related to the Disaster Assistance Program.

The program will be administered by the county manager through the Economic Development Department and allows the distribution of one-time financial

assistance to aid county residents who have been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and are ineligible to receive money under the CARES Act.

To qualify for assistance under the Disaster Assistance Program, an applicant must be a county resident, didn't qualify for a federal stimulus check, doesn't qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, and meets the definition of indigent as set forth in the resolution.

The amount of assistance per person has not yet been determined and information about qualification criteria, application process, and timeline will be posted on the county website at a future date.



BernCo Ballfields and Community Centers **Open for Limited Use**



LET'S PLAY BALL!

Recent changes in the state public health order have allowed Bernalillo County to open some recreation facilities on a limited basis.

Bernalillo County emphasizes that any teams or individuals, with an approved use agreement for use of county facilities, must follow health safety guidelines that are still in place, such as social distancing (six feet), mandatory use of masks (even at outdoor facilities), and no more than 10 people, to include coaches or instructors, allowed to gather for practice or training. There is still no competition allowed at any facilities, per the state mandate.

Four community centers are open and offering grab-n-go lunches Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunches are available for anyone under the age of 18. Each of the community centers is also offering all-day care for school-aged children. Each center can accommodate 25 kids and spaces. For availability and center details click [here](#).

Bernalillo County residents are invited to participate in a community art project for Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge from the comfort of your home!

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge is looking for participants to help create art for the welcome desk at the refuge's new visitor center. No special art skills are required and the refuge will send you all the materials you need. It's a fun way to be a part of the refuge development from the comfort of your own home.

And learn more about this project here:
<https://friendsofvalledeoro.org/urban->



Events in October

Free diabetes cooking classes!

Virtual Kitchen Creations

To register, please call
505-445-5332
OR follow the link below

Thursday's
October 8-29th

10 AM – 11:30 AM

Via Zoom

<https://bernalilloextension.nmsu.edu>



Please join us for this free series of 4 classes!

- Learn how to plan meals that help manage diabetes.
- Practice cooking foods in healthier ways.
- Get a free manual and cookbooks.
- Enjoy the support of others who are living with diabetes.

These classes will be taught by:

- Dianne Christensen, MS, NMCEP
- Ashley Dunworth, RDN, CDCES

Kitchen Creations has been provided since 2001 by:



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
**College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences**



This cooking school is also sponsored by:



New Mexico State University, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. If you are an individual with a disability and need an auxiliary aid or service, please contact the Extension Office at 505-243-1386

Ready, Set, Grow!

Free Webinar Gardening Series

Register Online

<https://desertblooms.nmsu.edu/ready-set-grow.html>

- Sept. 2 Planting the Fall Veggie Garden with John Garlich
Sept. 16 Pollinator Habitat for Fall & Winter with Amanda Skidmore
Oct. 7 The Humble Herb with Suzanne Cole
Oct. 21 Seed Saving with Lynda Garvin
Nov. 4 Planting trees in the Fall with Jeff Anderson
Nov. 18 Taking Care of the Winter Landscape with Marisa Thompson
Dec. 2 Gardening Gift Ideas with the Ready Set GROW Crew
Dec. 16 Hybrid Grapes, Hardwood Cuttings & Holiday Wine Pairings with Gill Giese

For more information, email us at desertblooms@nmsu.edu
or contact John Garlich at 505-243-1386

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate,
please contact John Garlich in advance at 505-243-1386 or garlich@nmsu.edu.

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator.
NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

The Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services
is excited to collaborate with Covia Well Connected to present:

Books, Movies, Games & More!

FREE Phone and Online Groups for Seniors 60+



Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services (OSSS) is pleased to work with
Well Connected, a nationwide senior program. Visit Well Connected at
<https://covia.org/services/well-connected/>
and call 877.797.7299 or email coviaconnections@covia.org to register today!

Interested in volunteering to facilitate a group? Contact OSSS@berncov.gov to learn more.

Visit and like the Office of Senior and Social Services (OSSS) Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/BernCoOSSS>



Programs supported by Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services



Book to Movie Discussion

Wednesdays, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, and Dec. 16 | 4 - 5 pm

Each month the group will read and discuss a story and its movie adaptation.

Was the movie true to the story, or not? We'll discuss the following:

- The Curious Case of Benjamin Button by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The movie stars Brad Pitt (September).
- Fences, a stage play by August Wilson. The movie stars Denzel Washington and Viola Davis (October).
- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. The movie is titled Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, and stars Robert DeNiro (November).
- The Gift of the Magi by O. Henry. The most recent movie stars Maria Sokoloff and Mark Webber (December).

You can find the movies on streaming services such as Amazon Prime, Google Play, Netflix or YouTube.

Facilitated by Staci Miceli, Community Program Enhancement Specialist, Bernalillo County Office of Senior & Social Services

Bingo Wednesdays

Sept. 2 and 16, Oct. 7 and 21, Nov. 4 and 18,
Dec. 2 and 16 | 10 - 11 am



Bingo? On the telephone? You bet! Join us for the classic game of chance and a few variations.
Call Well Connected to request Bingo cards, including cards in Braille: (877) 797-7299.

Facilitated by Brenda Cisneros-Fernandez, Public Health Specialist,
Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services (Wednesday)
and Janice Rooker (Saturday)

Bingo Saturdays

Sept. 5 - Dec. 26 | 10 - 11 am (beginners)
11 am - Noon (advanced)



Trivial Pursuit: Genus Edition

Every Tuesday, Sept. 1 - Dec. 29 | 4:30 - 5 pm



In the pursuit of trivial knowledge, the group will embark on a virtual game of Trivial Pursuit and compete to know
the most about geography, entertainment, history, art & literature, science & nature, and sports & leisure.

Facilitated by Amber Carroll, Director of Covia Well Connected, and Brenda Cisneros-Fernandez, Public Health Specialist,
Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services, and Elntra V.



Teeniors and the Value of Human Connection

Tuesday, October 6 | Noon - 1 pm



Teeniors® are tech-savvy young people who help older adults learn technology through one-on-one, personalized
coaching. Whether it's a smartphone, tablet, computer or software - the goal is to empower older adults to connect
with their loved ones, engage with their communities, and the world, through technology - while providing paid,
meaningful jobs for youth, showing how the power of human connection all over the world
brings change to our communities.

Facilitated by Amber Carroll, Director of Covia Well Connected, and Trish Lopez, Teeniors NM
Bernalillo County Office of Senior and Social Services



Recent BernCo News Releases

(click each news release below to read in full)

Early Voting & Same Day Registration at The Clerk's Annex

Oct. 5, 2020 - Bernalillo County Clerk Linda Stover announces the beginning of early voting and same day registration for the 2020 General Election.

County Assessor Delivers Tax Schedule

Oct. 2, 2020 – The Bernalillo County Assessor, Tanya R. Giddings, signed and delivered the 2020 property tax schedule to the County Treasurer's Office, for all real and personal property subject to property taxation. It also includes property within the county valued by the state otherwise known as centrally assessed. The tax schedule will allow the county treasurer to prepare and mail out the property tax bills in November of 2020. These assessed values are based upon market conditions as of Jan. 1, 2020.

Thank you for reading BernCo at a Glance

For assistance, please contact:

- Metropolitan Detention Center (general inmate info): (505) 839-8700
- Roads and traffic: (505) 848-1504 or (505) 848-1503
- Animal Care Services: (505) 468-PETS
- Property Maintenance (report a park or facility that needs cleanup): (505) 224-2119
- Schedule a large item pick-up: (505) 892-1200
- Department of Behavioral Health Services customer service: (505) 468-1555
- Court of Wills, Estates and Probate (general info): (505) 468-1232
 - Schedule an appointment: call (505) 468-1229 or email, probate@bernco.gov
- Unclaimed & Indigent Cremation Program: (505) 468-7295
- Accounts Payable general inquiries: (505) 468-7020
- All other calls: (505) 468-7777 or email, contactcenter@bernco.gov

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- [Glyphosate Moratorium](#)

